REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-18 are pending in the instant application. The Examiner has concluded that restriction to one of the following groups is necessary.

Combination of active substances:

a. a combination of a dopamine agonist and an anti-cholinergically active substance
b. a combination of L-dopa and an anti-cholinergically active substance
c. a combination of a dopamine agonist and an NMDA receptor antagonist
d. a combination of L-dopa and an NMDA receptor antagonist
e. e combination of a dopamine agonist or L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and an NMDA receptor antagonist
f. a combination of a dopamine agonist or L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and a monoamine oxidase B inhibitor
g. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an anti-cholinergically active substance and a symphathomimetics
h. a combination of L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and a symphathomimetics
i. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a symphathomimetics
j. a combination of L-dopa, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a symphathomimetics
k. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an anti-cholinergically active substance and catechol-o-methyl transferase inhibitor
l. a combination of L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and catechol-o-methyl transferase inhibitor
m. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an NMBA receptor antagonist and catechol-o-methyl transferase inhibitor
n. a combination of L-dopa, an NMDA receptor antagonist and catechol-o-methyl transferase inhibitor
o. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an anti-cholinergically active substance and a decarboxylase inhibitor
p. a combination of L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and a decarboxylase inhibitor
q. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a decarboxylase inhibitor
r. a combination of L-dopa, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a decarboxylase inhibitor
s. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an anti-cholinergically active substance and beta blocker

t. a combination of L-dopa, an anti-cholinergically active substance and beta blocker
u. a combination of a dopamine agonist, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a beta blocker
v. a combination of L-dopa, an NMDA receptor antagonist and a beta blocker
w. selegiline and rotigotine

The Examiner also states that depending on the specific combination of active agents selected above, an election of a specific species within the following genus is required.

Specific dopamine agonist

a. lisuride
b. bromocriptine
c. pramipexol
d. ropinrole
e. rotigotine
f. terguride
g. carbergoline
h. apomorphine
i. piribedile
j. pergolide
k. PHNO

Specific anti-cholinergics

a. bipreriden
b. trihexyphenidyl
c. procyclidine
d. bornaprine
e. metixene
f. orphenadrine
g. scopolamine
h. atropine and other belladonna alkaloids
i. benzatropine
j. nicotine

NMDA receptor antagonist

a. memantine
b. amantadine

Specific beta blocker

a. propranolol
b. timolol
c. pindolol
d. atenolol

The Examiner explains in the Office action that an election of a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable is required, and that the response must also identify the claims readable on the elected species. In addition, the Examiner concludes in the Office action that the aforementioned species do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features as there is no special technical feature in the claims. The Examiner argues that the independent claim possesses numerous alternatives for the active agents, none of which are carried throughout the claims. The Examiner refers to U.S. Patent No. 5,877,173 (Olney, et al.) for disclosing the transdermal administration of an NMDA receptor antagonist co-administered with lisuride which is a dopamine inhibitor.

The Applicants object to the instant restriction requirement, *with traverse*. It is respectfully submitted that the "special technical feature" which, according to PCT Rule 13.1, links the alternative combinations recited in pending claim 1 consists in the fact that these combinations are present in a transdermal preparation that is suitable for treatment of Parkinson's disease. The cited prior art document of Olney, et al. does not teach pharmaceutical preparations for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. With respect to claim 1, it is noted that Olney, et al. fail to disclose any transdermal preparations

containing L-Dopa, either alone or in combination with anticholinergically active substance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the present restriction requirement be withdrawn.

The Applicants hereby elect combination (b), which refers to a combination of L-dopa and an anti-cholinergically active substance. Regarding the species election, the Applicants elect "scopolamine" as the specific species from the "anticholinergics" recited in claim 1.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any remaining issues to be discussed which could expedite the prosecution of the present application. Further prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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